

KDLA Report

Report to the KLA Board
Sept. 12, 2013

Public Library Lawsuits

The Kenton County and Campbell County Public libraries are waiting for the Court of Appeals to set a date for hearing the appeal of the decisions by the circuit courts that invalidates the method the libraries have used to set tax rates since 1979. KLA, KPLA, and the Friends of Kentucky Libraries have provided funds to retain attorneys who will file Friend of the Court briefs. Lawsuits against the Boone Co., Montgomery Co., and Anderson Co. libraries are on hold for the time being.

HB1 implementation

KDLA is working with the Department for Local Government as it creates forms for implementing the provisions of HB1 which was passed by the Legislature this spring. By Jan. 1, 2014 all Special Purpose Government Entities must register on the website of the Department for Local Government and adopt their county's ethics code. Public libraries are now reviewing their county's ethics code. For 2014, budget forms are being developed that will be used by the SPGEs. Also beginning in January 2013, all tax or fee increases must be reported to the fiscal court.

State budget preparation

KDLA staff is now preparing our request for the state budget that will be adopted during the 2014 legislative session to start in January. The state's fiscal situation has not improved substantially and with the additional demands on the state, there probably will not be much funding for new initiatives. We would like to recover some of the losses that have occurred in the last 5 years, but that looks unlikely at this time.

We have been notified that pension costs for state employees will increase by 43% in 2014. For KDLA this will cost about \$400,000. We have been asked to submit a description of how this will impact our budget which equals a reduction of approximately 4.5%.

Additional Regional Librarian

It has been a long time plan of KDLA to fill a vacancy that has existed for a regional librarian in region 4. KDLA's budget situation has not allowed filling this position. With the retirements of several KDLA staff members earlier this year, KDLA is taking advantage of the opportunity to use the funding made available to fill this vacancy. When this position is filled, KDLA will have 8 regional librarians for the first time in a number of years.

Annual reports and statistics

Public libraries are completing their annual reports following the end of a big summer. There were lots of reports of increased activity. In addition to the Summer Reading Clubs, many public libraries were involved in the summer lunch programs at schools and a new program sponsored by the National Center for Family Literacy that focused on

summer reading for the entire family. Statistics on all these programs will be available this fall.

State Records Center

Construction of the new State Records Center in Frankfort is underway. Staff is in the process of selecting a software package for managing the records. Planning the move of 200,000 boxes, shelving, and equipment will begin soon. The new records center should be completed around January 1 and the moving can begin.

New libraries

Greenup County will open in Nov.

Ground has been broken for new Southwest Regional Library in Louisville

Neon in Letcher County opened in August

Pike County will open a new main library around the end of December

Floyd County is renovating the main library

Bath County is renovating an old building for a new branch

Kenton County's renovation of the main library will open in October

Logan County is opening a new library by the end of December

Taylor County opened in the spring

Submitted by Wayne Onkst